

# Including Evidence-Based Assertions in Encoded Archival Standards

Sixth draft, submitted by Mark Custer

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## Background

For a summary of the previous proposals, including encoding examples, see

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1o18Wa2BgtuQ46ixPXMsOc2iRI4m4zR\\_5QfUtcOVMaeGA/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1o18Wa2BgtuQ46ixPXMsOc2iRI4m4zR_5QfUtcOVMaeGA/edit?usp=sharing)

And:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1pnFmvNbYHaqvKardFOTp41XjEZD3r2feoQo44zIIFDk/edit?usp=sharing> (slight variation of the proposal below)

## Suggested Approach

With a decision pending regarding naming conventions as a whole (e.g. all lowercase, with no separators, vs. Pascal Casing, vs. kebab-based, etc.), I propose that we add one new element (“citedrange”) to the pre-existing “source” element, in addition to three new attributes (@conventiondeclarationreference, @sourcereference, and @maintenanceeventreference). These additions provide the ability to add supporting evidence to assertions in EAC in a standards-based way that also fulfills the scholarly need to provide citations, as well as allow implementers to link elements, such as name entries, to their corresponding convention declaration.

Additionally, I propose that we review the <source/> element as a whole, and consider whether <sourceEntry/> is needed at all.

The basic data model for the additions, as proposed, would be:

- **@conventiondeclarationreference** (Expected to provide a link to one, or more, of the convention declarations listed in the control section)
- **@maintenanceeventreference** (Expected to provide a link to one, or more, of the maintenanceEvent elements listed in the control section)
- **@sourcereference** (Expected to provide a link to one, or more, of the source elements listed in the control section)
- **citedrange** (child of source, 0 to unbounded)
  - **@unit** (optional. can be used to specify where the cited range of materials represents a page number, volume number, etc. This attribute is already available in EAD)
  - **@id**, **@lang**, **@script**, **@transliteration**
  - **[text]**

## Questions

1. still doesn't solve another issue. How to link to a description ABOUT a resource (i.e. bib record) vs. the ACTUAL resource (i.e. the text). (similar to the authority record vs. "real-world object" problem, e.g. \$0 vs. \$1). I assume a solution for this will come out of the discussion around "relations" (maybe some combo of arcrole, localType, etc.).
  - a. Perhaps if you could have something like:

```
<source @id="s1"> (but not href, etc.)  
  <citation href="whatever">...</citation>  
  <external-identifier type="oclc" href="whatever">NNN</idno>
```